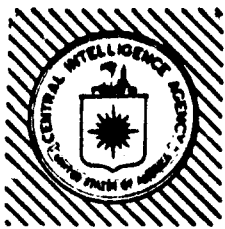


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DIST 16 MAY 1974

COUNTRY LAOS

DOI EARLY MAY 1974

SUBJECT LPF DIRECTIVE ON POW MATTERS, INSTRUCTIONS FOR
EXPANSION OF LPF INFLUENCE IN VIENTIANE AND
LUANG PRABANG, AND FEARS OF CONTINUED AMERICAN
[REDACTED] MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN LAOS

SUMMARY: [REDACTED]

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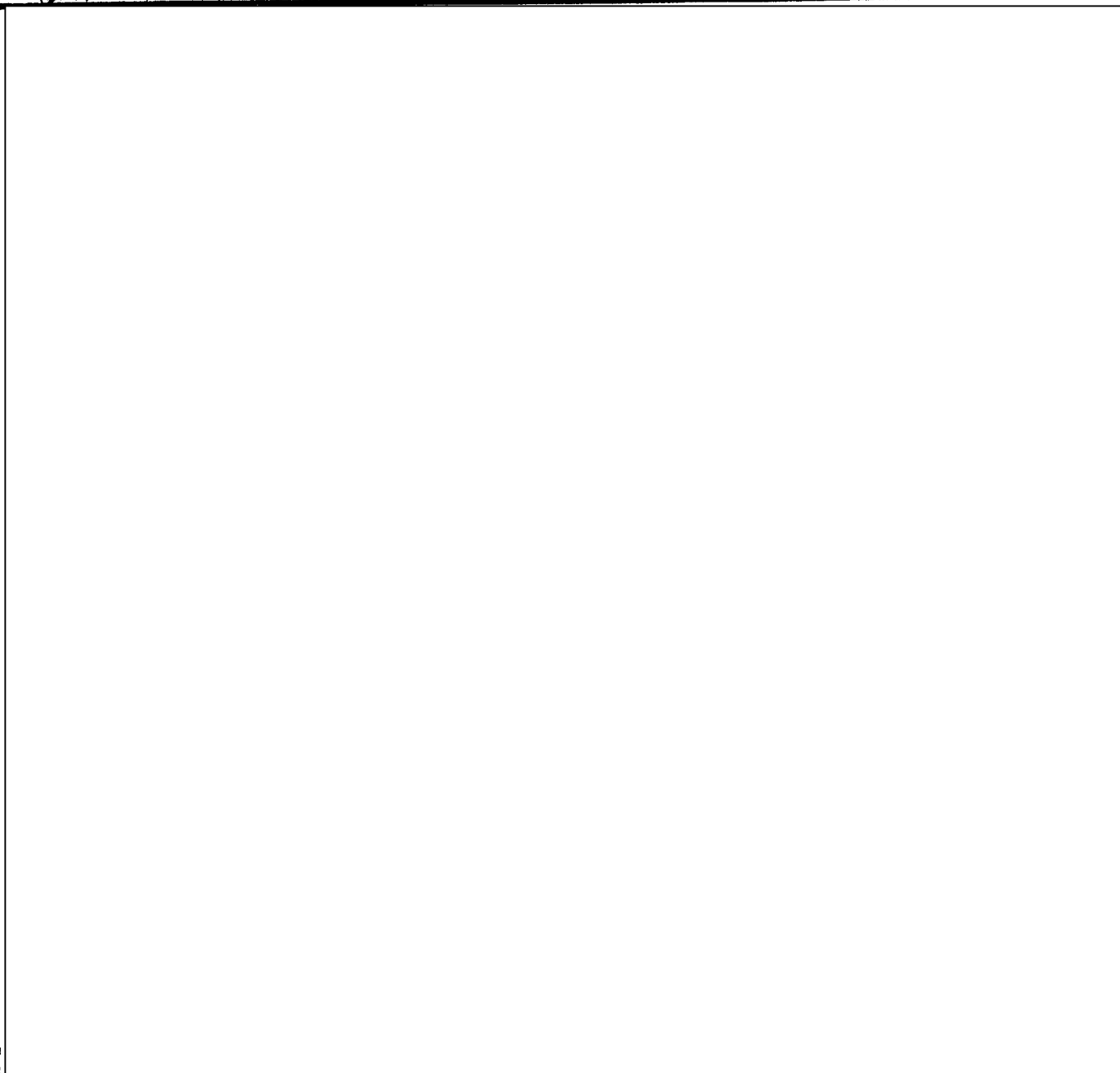
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END SUMMARY.

1.

AN LPP DIRECTIVE RECEIVED IN MAY 1974 ADVISED THAT THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS OF WAR (POW) IS AN IMPORTANT QUESTION BUT SHOULD NOT POSE ANY SERIOUS PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, THE LPP POLICY ON THE TREATMENT OF THE POW'S IS NOT WELL DEFINED AND THEREFORE THE LPP MAY FACE SOME PROBLEMS WHEN APPROACHING THIS QUESTION. THE LPP DIRECTIVE WARNED THAT IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE, THAT IS, NOW THAT THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION (PGNU) AND THE JOINT NATIONAL POLITICAL COUNCIL HAVE BEEN FORMED, THE LPP MAY HAVE PROBLEMS BECAUSE THE AMERICANS AND THEIR FOLLOWERS, THE VIENTIANE RIGHTISTS, WILL TRY TO TURN

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THE POW EXCHANGE ISSUE TO THEIR POLITICAL ADVANTAGE AND MAY CLAIM THAT THE LAO CONFLICT WAS AN OFFSHOOT OF THE WAR IN VIETNAM. IF THE LPF YIELDS ON THIS SUBJECT, THE AMERICANS WILL DENOUNCE NORTH VIETNAM. AFTER THE EXCHANGE OF POW'S, THE AMERICANS WILL CONTINUE TO SEARCH FOR THE REMAINS OF THEIR MEN KILLED IN ACTION (KIA) AND WILL TRY TO USE RELATIVES AND PARENTS OF THE KIA'S AS TOOLS TO COME TO LAOS AND APPEAL OR MAKE CHARGES AGAINST THE LPF. DURING THESE SEARCHES THE AMERICANS WILL ATTEMPT TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE "LIBERATED" AREAS.

2. ACCORDING TO THE LPF DIRECTIVE, THE LPF SHOULD TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY WHILE THE POW EXCHANGE IS GOING ON TO LAUNCH VERBAL ATTACKS AGAINST THE ENEMY. FOR INSTANCE, THE LPF MUST USE ALL MEANS AVAILABLE TO CONDEMN THE U.S. AND [] INTERFERENCE AND AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS IN LAOS. THE LPF MUST SHOW THE PEOPLE THEIR SINCERITY AND HOW THE LPF STRUGGLED FOR JUSTICE AND FAIRNESS. THE LPF MUST TREAT THE WOUNDED WELL, AND BEFORE THE POW'S ARE REPATRIATED, THE LPF MUST TRY TO MAKE THEM UNDERSTAND LPF POLICY AND SHOW HOW JUSTLY THE LPF TREATED THE POW'S.

3. THE LPF MUST INSIST THAT THE VIENTIANE SIDE RETURN ALL LPF SOLDIERS, BOTH LAO AND VIETNAMESE, DETAINED BY THE VIENTIANE

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SIDE. THE LPF MUST USE ALL MEANS AT ITS DISPOSAL TO MAKE SURE ALL ITS MEN ARE FREED. ALL VOLUNTEERS, INCLUDING CHINESE, LAO, [REDACTED], AND ALL OTHER LPF SOLDIERS WILL BE REPATRIATED. HOWEVER, THE SAIGON PUPPET TROOPS WILL BE HANDED OVER TO THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT OF SOUTH VIETNAM.

4. THE LPF DIRECTIVE STATED FURTHER THAT THE LPF MUST KEEP A CERTAIN NUMBER OF POW'S, AND IF THE ENEMY DENOUNCES NORTH VIETNAM FOR AGGRESSION AGAINST LAOS, THE LPF CAN POINT TO THE U.S. AND [REDACTED] POW'S WHO WERE CAPTURED AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT. THESE POW'S COULD BE USED AS A CONCRETE EVIDENCE OF U.S. AND [REDACTED] AGGRESSION. AS FOR THE PROBLEM OF THE AMERICAN AND [REDACTED] PERSONNEL MISSING IN ACTION (MIA), THE LPF WOULD GIVE FULLY DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THEM. IF THE MIA'S ARE IN LPF CUSTODY, THE LPF WILL HAND THEM OVER, BUT IF THEY ARE NOT AVAILABLE, THE LPF WILL SAY IT DOES NOT HAVE THEM.

5. REGARDING THE PROCEDURES OF THE LAO POW EXCHANGE, THE LPF DIRECTIVE STATES THE LPF WOULD LATER FIX THE POINT OF POW EXCHANGE, AND THE EXCHANGES WOULD BE MADE GRADUALLY. HOWEVER, THE EXCHANGE OF THE LPF POW'S SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN THE FIRST ROUND OF EXCHANGES, OR IF THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE, ALL SHOULD BE RETURNED IN

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THE SECOND EXCHANGE. THE RETURNED LPF POW'S WILL BE TAKEN TO A SPECIAL PLACE WHERE THEY WILL BE GIVEN SPECIAL ATTENTION AND INSTRUCTED IN LPF POLICY. WHETHER A LARGE OR SMALL NUMBER OF POW'S IS HANDED OVER WILL DEPEND ON THE SITUATION. THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING THE PLANS RELATING TO EACH ISSUE WILL BE FORWARDED IN DETAIL LATER.

6. ON THE SUBJECT OF THE NEUTRALIZATION OF VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG, THE LPF DIRECTIVE INSTRUCTED THAT ALL INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS, WHETHER INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL, WILL BE DISSOLVED AND NONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE IN THE TWO CITIES. THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE TROOPS OF THE VIENTIANE SIDE MUST BE CONDUCTED ACTIVELY IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE PROCESS WITHOUT INTERRUPTION. THE LPF

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MUST CONTINUE THE CONSOLIDATION OF ITS ARMED FORCES. ALL MILITARY, POLICE AND THE JOINT COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT (JCIA) IN THE TWO CITIES. THE LPF MUST PLACE ITS FORCES SO THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO HANDLE ANY SITUATION. THE LPF FORCES MUST BE PUT IN BOTH OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE POSITIONS SO THEY CAN ENCIRCLE ENEMY POSITIONS IN THE TWO CITIES. THE LPF MUST MAKE SURE IT WILL BE ABLE TO CONTROL THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ENEMY FORCES.

7. THE COMMITTEE FOR NEUTRALIZATION OF THE TWO CITIES MUST IMPLEMENT STRICTLY AND EFFECTIVELY THE AGREEMENT AND THE PROTOCOL AND OBSERVE ALL ORDERS AND RULES ACCORDING TO THE LAW. ALSO, ALL AGREEMENTS AND POLITICAL PROJECTS OF THE PGNU MUST BE CARRIED OUT EFFECTIVELY. IN ADDITION, THE LPF WILL CONTINUE TO EXPAND ITS ROLE AND CONCENTRATE ON COOPERATING WITH ALL ORGANIZATIONS, PARTICULARLY BY ESTABLISHING CLOSER RELATIONSHIPS WITH MAYORS, AND DISTRICT, SUBDISTRICT, AND HAMLET CHIEFS AS WELL AS THE MILITARY AND CIVIL SERVANTS IN ORDER TO PUBLICIZE THE TEXTS OF THE AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOL SO THE PEOPLE WILL UNDERSTAND THEM BETTER. FURTHERMORE, ALL THE RULES OF THE NEUTRALIZATION OF VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG MUST BE MADE KNOWN TO THE PEOPLE SO THEY WILL UNDERSTAND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES. THE LPF MUST CONCENTRATE ON PROSELYTING AND

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EXPANDING ITS ORGANIZATION IN ORDER TO STIMULATE AND SUPPORT THE MASS STRUGGLE SO THE PEOPLE WILL STAND TOGETHER AGAINST OFFICIALS OF THE VIENTIANE SIDE. AT THE SAME TIME, THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE AND DEMOCRACY WILL BE PROTECTED IN ORDER TO LEAD THE PEOPLE TO A BETTER LIFE.

8. THE LPF MUST CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR APPROVAL OF ITS PLAN FOR ADDITIONAL WATER AND AIR TRANSPORTATION SO THAT SUPPLIES, TROOPS AND EQUIPMENT CAN BE SHIPPED INTO THE TWO CITIES. BESIDES THE AIR ROUTE LINKING HANOI AND THE TWO LAO CITIES, THE LPF WILL ATTEMPT TO GET PERMISSION FROM THE VIENTIANE SIDE FOR LPF PLANES IN KHANG KHAI (UG 0523), THE PLAIN OF JARS, NAM BAC (PROBABLY TM 0993), AND MUONG SAI (RC 1289) TO FLY TO THE TWO CITIES. THE LPF MUST OBTAIN PERMISSION TO USE LAND TRANSPORTATION LINKING THE PLAIN OF JARS TO LUANG PRABANG AND VIENTIANE AS WELL AS ROUTES 2 AND 3. THE LPF MUST PROPOSE TO THE VIENTIANE SIDE THAT IT PROVIDE SECURITY FOR LPF TRUCK AND CAR CONVOYS TRAVELING ALONG THE ABOVE-MENTIONED HIGHWAYS OR STOPPING AT TRANSPORT STATIONS. WHEN THE LPF SIDE SUBMITS THIS MATTER TO THE JCIA, THE VIENTIANE SIDE PROBABLY WILL SUBMIT ITS OWN TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM BY REQUESTING FREE PASSAGE ON THE MEKONG RIVER FROM LUANG PRABANG

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TO BAN HOUET SAI.

9. IN ADDITION, THE LPF SIDE MUST KEEP TRYING TO OBTAIN MORE VEHICLES FROM THE VIENTIANE SIDE FOR THE LPF MILITARY AND POLICE FORCES. ALSO, THE LPF STILL NEEDS MATERIALS SUCH AS WOOD FOR CONSTRUCTION AND WATER FACILITIES AND ELECTRICITY AND OTHER THINGS TO PROVIDE PLEASANT AND COMFORTABLE LIVING FOR LPF PERSONNEL IN THE TWO CITIES.

10. IN REGARD TO THE CEASE-FIRE AND THE RECOGNITION OF THE CONTROLLED AREAS OF THE TWO SIDES, THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES, AND THE MEANING OF THE TEXT OF THE CEASE-FIRE AS SPELLED OUT IN THE PROTOCOL, THE DIRECTIVE STATES THAT THE CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT SPELLS OUT CLEARLY THAT UNDER THE CEASE-FIRE THE VIENTIANE SIDE MUST RECOGNIZE THE BOUNDARIES OF THE LPF CONTROLLED AREAS IN RELATION TO THE VIENTIANE SIDE'S CONTROLLED AREAS. ALL ACTIVITIES WHICH MIGHT BE DETRIMENTAL TO PEACE OR ACTIONS THAT MIGHT DISTURB THE LIBERATED AREAS MUST BE AVOIDED, AND THE USE OF MONEY FOR FINANCIAL OPPRESSION MUST CEASE. ALL MILITARY AND POLICE FORCES ARE PROHIBITED FROM USING THEIR POWER TO THREATEN, SUPPRESS OR OPPRESS THE PEOPLES' RIGHTS AND FREEDOM.

11. THE LPF DIRECTIVE WARNED THAT THE VIENTIANE SIDE WILL

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TRY, PARTICULARLY AT THIS TURNING POINT IN LAO HISTORY, TO CREATE DIFFICULTIES AS THEY ARE AFRAID THAT THE LPF WILL ATTACK AND CAPTURE THEIR CONTROLLED AREAS. THE VIENTIANE SIDE WILL TRY TO PLACE DEMARCATION POST IN LOCATIONS WHICH THEY BELIEVE WILL BENEFIT THEM MOST AND WOULD BE TO THEIR ADVANTAGE. IF THE LPF DOES NOT AGREE, THE VIENTIANE SIDE MIGHT USE MILITARY FORCE TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS. THE VIENTIANE SIDE WILL SEND ITS GUERRILLA FORCES TO SEIZE AND CONTROL VARIOUS POSITIONS OF STRATEGIC VALUE TO THEM, THEN THEY WILL ASK THE LPF TO INSPECT THE AREA AND GRANT LEGAL RECOGNITION. DEMARCATION POSTS MUST BE PLACED ACCORDING TO THE PROTOCOL AND IN RECOGNITION OF EXISTING REALITIES.

12. THE LPF DIRECTIVE INDICATED THAT THE VIENTIANE SIDE CALLED FOR DISCUSSIONS ON THE REOPENING OF HIGHWAYS WHICH THEY NEED FOR TRANSPORTING GOODS AND PEOPLE. IF THE LPF DOES NOT ACCEPT THE VIENTIANE SIDE'S PROPOSALS, THEY WILL TRY TO TURN THE PEOPLE AGAINST THE LPF. THE VIENTIANE SIDE MUST BE ALLOWED TO BUILD ITS NEW SUPPLY ROUTES TO TRANSPORT MEN AND SUPPLIES INTO ITS CONTROLLED AREAS DEEP IN THE LPF-CONTROLLED AREAS. SUCH NEW SUPPLY ROUTES MUST BE RECOGNIZED LEGALLY AND GUARANTEED.

13. THE LPF MUST FORCE THE AMERICANS BY ANY MEANS TO STOP

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COMPLETELY ALL VIOLATIONS OF LAO AIR SPACE IN ORDER TO PRESERVE LPF SECURITY AND CERTAIN FRIENDLY RELATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN THE EASTERN BULOGENS PLATEAU. TO ACCOMPLISH THIS, THE LPF MUST MAKE A REPORT CONDEMNING U.S. RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS OVER LPF LIBERATED AIR SPACE AND ALSO THE VIOLATIONS OF LAND AND AIR BY THE VIENTIANE SIDE. THE VIENTIANE SIDE STILL SENDS GUERRILLA TEAMS TO CAUSE DISORDERS INSIDE LPF LIBERATED AREAS. AT THE SAME TIME THEY CONDUCT THE "OPPRESSION-SUPPRESSION" OPERATIONS AGAINST THE PEOPLE IN THEIR REAR AREAS. THE LPF MUST TRY TO COLLECT ANY CONCRETE WRITTEN EVIDENCE OF THEIR BRUTAL ACTION AGAINST THE PEOPLE SO THAT THE LPF CAN MAKE IT KNOWN TO THE PEOPLE VIA LPF RADIO BROADCASTS. THE LPF ALSO MIGHT SEND THE VIENTIANE SIDE A PROTEST LETTER OR INCITE THE PEOPLE TO DEMONSTRATE AGAINST THE VIENTIANE SIDE TO TRY TO ISOLATE THEM.

14. THE VIENTIANE SIDE'S PLANS ARE BASED ON THE AMERICAN OBJECTIVE OF INTERFERING IN LAO AFFAIRS. THE AMERICAN CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (CIA) WILL STILL TRY TO USE LAO PUPPETS TO CONDUCT AGGRESSIVE WAR IN LAOS. THE CIA WILL ATTEMPT TO USE ITS SPECIAL FORCES (IRREGULARS) UNDER A NEW GUISE. THE LPF IS JUST, HOWEVER AND THE LPF AND THE PEOPLE WILL UNITE IN OPPOSING AMERICAN

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INTERFERENCE. THE LPF HAS THE CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOL TO FORCE THE AMERICAN AND [] TROOPS TO WITHDRAW FROM LAOS. THE AGREEMENT AND THE PROTOCOL DO NOT MENTION OR INDICATE THE PRESENCE OF VIETNAMESE TROOPS IN LAOS; THEREFORE, THE LPF HAS MORE REASON AND SUFFICIENT GROUND TO STRUGGLE AGAINST THE ENEMY.

15. ACCORDING TO THIS STRUGGLE PLAN, THE LPF WILL FIRST OF ALL SEARCH FOR PROOF OR EVIDENCE FOR ITS DENUNCIATIONS. THE LPF WILL HAVE TO EXERT ITS INFLUENCE TO DESTROY THE PLANS FOR INTERFERENCE IN LAOS BY THE AMERICANS AND [] WHO WILL USE THEIR SPECIAL FORCES IN NEW FORMS AGAINST LAO POLITICS AND LAW. THE LPF WILL HAVE TO REVEAL THE TRICKS BEHIND THE WORDS OF THE

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AMERICANS TO THE EFFECT THAT THEY HAVE GOOD INTENTIONS, SINCERITY
AND ARE WILLING TO WITHDRAW [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] AND ABOLISH THE SPECIAL FORCES. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] U.S. MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN LAOS [REDACTED] IS AGAINST THE
AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOL. WITHDRAWAL OF THE TROOPS WILL BE PLANNED
AND ORDERED BY THE TWO SIDES ON THE JCIA. THE JCIA WILL JOINTLY
SUPERVISE THE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS, MILITARY PERSONNEL
AND THE ABOLISHMENT OF THE SPECIAL FORCES. IN TURN, THE AMERICANS
WILL ATTEMPT TO FORCE THE WITHDRAWAL FROM LAOS OF NORTH VIETNAMESE
FORCES: WILL OBSTRUCT AID TO LAOS FROM SOCIALIST COUNTRIES,
ESPECIALLY NORTH VIETNAM, AND WILL INTERDICT THE NORTH VIETNAMESE
SUPPLY ROUTE THROUGH LAOS AND CAMBODIA.

16. THE AMERICANS WANT THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY (NVA) TO
WITHDRAW FROM LAOS BUT THEY WILL PERSIST WITH THEIR NEO-COLONIALIST
PLAN IN LAOS BY OFFERING POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION AID WITH OBLIGATIONS
TO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. THE AMERICANS WILL USE THE AID TO
INVOLVE THESE COUNTRIES ON THE PRETEXT OF FOLLOWING INTERNATIONAL
LAW. WHEN THE AMERICANS NEGOTIATE WITH THE LPF, THEY WILL BRING
UP THE QUESTION OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE NVA FROM LAOS BY ACCUSING
NORTH VIETNAM OF INTERFERING IN LAOS. THE AMERICANS WILL SAY THAT

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THE NVA MUST WITHDRAW FROM LAOS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGREEMENT
AND PROTOCOL,

THEY
WILL DO THIS TO CREATE POLITICAL PROBLEMS FOR THE LPF. THEY WILL
ALSO BRING UP THE QUESTION OF THE PROVISIONS FOR THE INSPECTION
OF THE TROOP WITHDRAWAL. FIRST, THEY WILL BRING UP INSIGNIFICANT
QUESTIONS, THEN SIGNIFICANT ONES. THIS INSPECTION MAY BE CARRIED
OUT AFTER THE 60-DAY LIMIT BY THE TWO SIDES ON THE JCIA, THE
INTERNATIONAL CONTROL COMMISSION (ICC), OR BY THE TWO SIDES IN
THE GOVERNMENT. THE INSPECTION MAY BE CARRIED OUT IN THE TERRITORY
CONTROLLED BY THE VIENTIANE SIDE FIRST AND THEN THE LPF-CONTROLLED
AREAS. THE AMERICANS WILL PROPOSE THAT THE AREAS WHERE STRATEGIC
SUPPLY ROUTES ARE LOCATED SHOULD BE INSPECTED FIRST, AND THEN
THE ROUTE TO SOUTH VIETNAM.

17. THE VIENTIANE SIDE IS TRYING TO AVOID IMPLEMENTING
THE ARTICLE ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS AND MILITARY
PERSONNEL. THEY AND THE VIENTIANE RIGHTISTS HAVE PLANS TO
BUILD UP FACILITIES FOR AMERICANS TO CONTINUE THEIR WAR SCHEMES
IN LAOS. THE JCIA WAS ESTABLISHED TO IMPLEMENT THE ARTICLE ON
THE WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS AND THE ABOLISHMENT OF THE SPECIAL

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FORCES. THESE ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT ARTICLES OF THE AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOL. UNFORTUNATELY, THE VIENTIANE RIGHTISTS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO OBSTRUCT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARTICLES. THEREFORE, THE TWO SIDES ON THE JCIA DO NOT KNOW WHAT PLAN SHOULD BE FOLLOWED AND THIS QUESTION WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED BECAUSE THE VIENTIANE SIDE WILL SETTLE IT ALONE.

18. NEW METHODS OR NEW TERMS SHOULD BE APPLIED TO SETTLE QUESTIONS ON WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS AND ABOLISHMENT OF SPECIAL FORCES. FIRST OF ALL, THE VIENTIANE SIDE MUST REPORT ALL MILITARY INVOLVEMENT OF THE AMERICANS AND [] FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR UP TO THE DATE WHEN THE TWO SIDES SIGNED THE AGREEMENT, DESCRIBING ALL CIRCUMSTANCES CONCERNING THE SPECIAL FORCES BEGINNING FROM THE DATE OF THEIR FORMATION UNTIL THE DATE OF THEIR ABOLISHMENT. THIS WILL ENABLE THE JCIA TO SET UP PROPER PLANS FOR WITHDRAWAL AND ABOLISHMENT. THE VIENTIANE SIDE MUST COMPLY WITH PLANS MADE BY THE TWO SIDES IN THE JCIA AND REPORT ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS ON THIS MATTER IN DETAIL. IF THE VIENTIANE SIDE CAN DO THIS IT WILL MEAN THAT IT COMPLIES WITH THE AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOL AND THE LPF WILL BE ABLE TO DO ITS JOB. THE LPF INTERNAL ORGANIZATION MUST ALSO EXCHANGE OPINIONS

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AND REPORT RESULTS TO THE JCIA AHEAD OF TIME. THE LPF MUST FOLLOW THE LAW AND MUST FOLLOW WHAT P H O U M I VONGVICHIT SAID TO PRIME MINISTER S O U V A N N A PHOUMA BEFORE THEY SIGNED THE AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO BE CONSISTENT IN OUR STATEMENTS. ALSO, THE LPF SHOULD ACT PROPERLY AND FOLLOW THE LAW IN ORDER TO LET THE ENEMY CONDUCT INSPECTIONS AS THEY PROPOSE. THIS IS TO SHOW THE GOOD INTENTIONS OF THE LPF IN GAINING SUPPORT. IN DISCUSSING THIS ARTICLE, THE LPF MUST PROTEST

[REDACTED]

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WHICH INTERFERE WITH THE INTERNAL POLICIES OF

LAOS. THE LPF MUST ALSO URGE

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